

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 444

Whereas the organization now known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States ("VFW") was founded in Columbus, Ohio, on September 29, 1899;

Whereas the VFW represents approximately 2,000,000 veterans of the Armed Forces who served overseas in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War, Bosnia, Iraq, and Afghanistan; and

Whereas the VFW has, for the past 105 years, provided voluntary and unselfish service to the Armed Forces and to veterans, communities, States, and the United States, and has worked toward the betterment of veterans in general and society as a whole: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the historic significance of the 105th anniversary of the founding of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States ("VFW");

(2) congratulates the VFW on achieving that milestone;

(3) commends the approximately 2,000,000 veterans who belong to the VFW and thanks them for their service to their fellow veterans and the United States; and

(4) recognizes the VFW's national Commander-in-Chief, John Furgess, for his service and dedication to the veterans of the United States.

BINDING ARBITRATION FOR SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN RESERVATION CONTRACTS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 652, H.R. 4115.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4115) to amend the Act of November 2, 1966 (80 Stat. 1112), to allow binding arbitration clauses be included in all contracts affecting the land within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Reservation.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4115) was read the third time and passed.

INDIAN CHILD PROTECTION AND FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT OF 2003

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 438, S. 1601.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1601) to amend the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act to provide for the reporting and reduction of child abuse and family violence incidences on Indian reservations, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following: (Strike the part shown in black brackets and insert the part shown in italic.)

S. 1601

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

[This Act may be cited as the "Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2003".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

[Section 402 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3201) is amended—

[(1) in subsection (a)—

[(A) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

["(1) finds that—

["(A) Indian children are the most precious resource of Indian tribes and need special protection by the United States;

["(B) the number of reported incidences of child abuse on Indian reservations continues to rise at an alarming rate, but the reduction of such incidences is hindered by the lack of—

["(i) community awareness in identification and reporting methods;

["(ii) interagency coordination for reporting, investigating, and prosecuting; and

["(iii) tribal infrastructure for managing, preventing, and treating child abuse cases;

["(C) improvements are needed to combat the continuing child abuse on Indian reservations, including—

["(i) education to identify symptoms consistent with child abuse;

["(ii) extensive background investigations of Federal and tribal employees, volunteers, and contractors who care for, teach, or otherwise have regular contact with Indian children;

["(iii) strategies to ensure the safety of child protection workers; and

["(iv) support systems for the victims of child abuse and their families; and

["(D) funds spent by the United States on Indian reservations for the benefit of Indian victims of child abuse or family violence are inadequate to combat child abuse and to meet the growing needs for mental health treatment and counseling for those victims and their families.";

[(B) in paragraph (2)—

[(i) by striking "two" and inserting "the";

[(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

[(I) by inserting after "provide funds for" the following: "developing a comprehensive tribal child abuse and family violence program including training and technical assistance for identifying, addressing, and decreasing such incidents and for"; and

[(II) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

[(iii) by adding at the end the following:

["(C) implement strategies to increase the safety of child protection workers;

["(D) assist tribes in developing the necessary infrastructure to combat and reduce child abuse on Indian reservations; and

["(E) identify and remove impediments to the prevention and reduction of child abuse on Indian reservations, including elimination of existing barriers, such as difficulties in sharing information among agencies and differences between the values and treatment protocols of the different agencies.";

and

[(2) in subsection (b)—

[(A) in paragraph (1), by striking "prevent further abuse" and inserting "prevent and prosecute child abuse";

[(B) in paragraph (2), by striking "authorize a study to determine the need for a central registry for reported incidents of abuse" and inserting "build tribal infrastructure needed to maintain and coordinate databases";

[(C) by striking paragraph (3);

[(D) by redesignating paragraphs (4), (5), (6), and (7) as paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6), respectively;

[(E) in paragraph (3) (as redesignated by subparagraph (D)), by striking "sexual";

[(F) in paragraph (5) (as redesignated by subparagraph (D)), by striking "Area" and inserting "Regional";

[(G) in paragraph (6) (as redesignated by subparagraph (D))—

[(i) by inserting "child abuse and" after "incidents of"; and

[(ii) by inserting "through tribally-operated programs" after "family violence";

[(H) by inserting after paragraph (6) (as redesignated by subparagraph (D)) the following:

["(7) conduct a study to identify the impediments to effective prevention, investigation, prosecution, and treatment of child abuse"; and

[(I) by striking paragraph (8) and inserting the following:

["(8) develop strategies to protect the safety of the child protection workers while performing responsibilities under this title; and".

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

[Section 403(3) of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3202(3)) is amended—

[(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking "and" at the end;

[(2) in subparagraph (B), by adding "and" at the end; and

[(3) by adding at the end the following:

["(C) any case in which a child is subjected to family violence";.

SEC. 4. REPORTING PROCEDURES.

[Section 404(b) of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3203(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

["(3) COOPERATIVE REPORTING.—If—

["(A) a report of abuse or family violence involves an alleged abuser who is a non-Indian; and

["(B) a preliminary inquiry indicates a criminal violation has occurred;

the local law enforcement agency (if other than the State law enforcement agency) shall immediately report the occurrence to the State law enforcement agency.".

SEC. 5. CENTRAL REGISTRY.

[The Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act is amended by striking section 405 (25 U.S.C. 3204) and inserting the following:

["SEC. 405. BARRIERS TO IMPLEMENTATION.

["(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Attorney General, shall conduct a study to identify impediments to the reduction of child abuse on Indian reservations.

["(b) MATTERS TO BE EVALUATED.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall, at a minimum, evaluate the interagency and intergovernmental cooperation and jurisdictional impediments in investigations and prosecutions.

["(c) REPORT.—

["(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes the results of the study under subsection (a).